

Message Text

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12

ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07 DOTE-00 CG-00 DLOS-03 FEA-01

AID-05 CEQ-01 COA-01 COME-00 EPA-01 NSF-01 OES-03

FMC-01 /097 W

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P R 171030Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8833

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 0321

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS EWWT IMCO

SUBJ: POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING GROUNDING OF JAPANESE TANKER

REF: A. STATE 11235

B. JAKARTA 665

C. SINGAPORE 180

D. KL 234

1. GOM HAS MADE NO FURTHER STATEMENT ON SHOWA MARU OIL SPILL SINCE MIN OF LAW/ATTORNEY GEN KADIR ANNOUNCED JAN. 10 (REF D) THAT MALAYSIA WOULD COOPERATE WITH INDONESIA AND SINGAPORE IN SEEKING COMPENSATION FOR DAMAGES. WE DO NOT CONSIDER IT LIKELY THAT GOM WOULD TAKE UNILATERAL ACTION TO CONTROL TANKER TRAFFIC. SOME NEWS REPORTS HAVE CARRIED REFERENCES TO DISCUSSION OF THE OIL SPILL BY PRIME MINISTERS LEE AND RAZAK DURING THEIR MEETINGS HERE JAN. 14-15, BUT THUS FAR GOM HAS NOT MADE ANNOUNCEMENT PARALLEL TO THAT REPORTEDLY MADE BY PM LEE
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(FBIS BANGKOK 161610Z JAN 75) THAT HE HAD AGREED TO A PROPOSAL

BY RAZAK FOR MEETING ON NAVIGATIONAL SAFETY IN THE STRAITS.

2. MALAYSIA HAS IN THE PAST BEEN HESITANT TO
ACCEPT IMCO'S ABILITY TO SATISFACTORILY REGULATE SAFETY IN
THE STRAITS SINCE THIS UNDERCUTS ONE OF THE GOM'S MAIN PUBLIC
JUSTIFICATIONS FOR IT AND INDONESIA TO EXERCISE TERRITORIAL
SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE NARROW PORTIONS OF THE STRAITS. IT IS
NOT LIKELY, THEREFORE, THAT THE GOM WOULD SUPPORT AN
INITIATIVE SUCH AS THE RESOLUTION PROPOSED IN REF A
SINCE THIS WOULD TEND TO WEAKEN THE LEVERAGE GAINED
FROM THE SHOWA MARU INCIDENT. HOWEVER, MALAYSIA WILL
PROBABLY FOLLOW INDONESIA'S LEAD IN THESE MATTERS.
UNDERHILL

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Message Attributes

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